

Up to the Minute

OACBHA UPDATE

January 7, 2009

GOVERNORS ASK FOR \$1 TRILLION IN FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Five Democratic governors, including Ohio Governor Ted Strickland, have asked Congress and President-Elect Obama for \$1 trillion in federal assistance. During a conference call with reporters Governor Strickland talked about Ohio's possible \$7.3 billion shortfall in the next biennial budget. The Governor said that without federal assistance Ohio would have to take a 25% across-the-board cut in state government operations to balance the next budget. The five governors asked for a stimulus and rescue package that would be divided into \$250 billion in education grants, \$250 billion for programs such as Medicaid and unemployment compensation, \$350 billion for infrastructure projects, and \$150 billion for middle-class tax cuts. To read this article in its entirety, please visit: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/01/03/StimOhio.ART_ART_01-03-09_A1_E2CDL26.html.

SUMMIT FOR SOLDIERS

A nationwide campaign entitled "Summit for Soldiers" with the goal of bringing attention to the silent killer among our soldiers and veterans known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) will be visiting Ohio on January 17 in Bellefontaine. The awareness campaign will visit the highest elevation points of all 50 states to inform and educate veterans, families and communities about PTSD, including: resources and treatments available to them; taking on the stigma that is associated with PTSD to foster a safe, non-threatening environment for soldiers to seek treatment; and to advocate for programs and resources that provide simplified access to services for all of our active duty military personnel and veterans. For more information and details about the campaign and the event on January 17, visit: www.summitforsoldiers.org.

NIDA RELEASES REPORT ON COMORBIDITY

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) released a research report, *Comorbidity: Addiction and Other Mental Illnesses*, this week. The report summarizes the state of the science regarding the relationship between substance abuse and other mental disorders. For 20 years national surveys have shown a high prevalence of drug abuse among individuals diagnosed with other mental illnesses. This research report describes common factors that can lead to comorbidity and it highlights some of the challenges to concurrently treating these conditions. For more information on the report, please visit: <http://www.drugabuse.gov/researchreports/comorbidity/index.html>.

SAMHSA RELEASES REPORT ON SERIOUS PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released a report showing that an estimated 24.3 million people ages 18 and older have experienced serious psychological distress in the past year, however only 44.6% of them received mental health services. The report also found that the rate of serious psychological distress was higher among young adults ages 18 to 25. This report used data collected in SAMHSA's 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). To read the full report, please visit: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8/spdtx/spdtx.cfm>.

For more information about behavioral health issues in Ohio please visit:

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